

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
6 May 2005 (06.05.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/041086 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 17/60,**
H04M 3/56

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2004/052329

(22) International Filing Date:
27 September 2004 (27.09.2004)

(25) Filing Language: **English**

(26) Publication Language: **English**

(30) Priority Data:
0324289.8 17 October 2003 (17.10.2003) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **INTER-**
NATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORA-
TION [US/US]; New Orchard Road, Armonk, New York
10504 (US).

(71) Applicant (for MG only): **IBM UNITED KINGDOM**
LIMITED [GB/GB]; PO Box 41, North Harbour,
Portsmouth Hampshire PO6 3AU (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

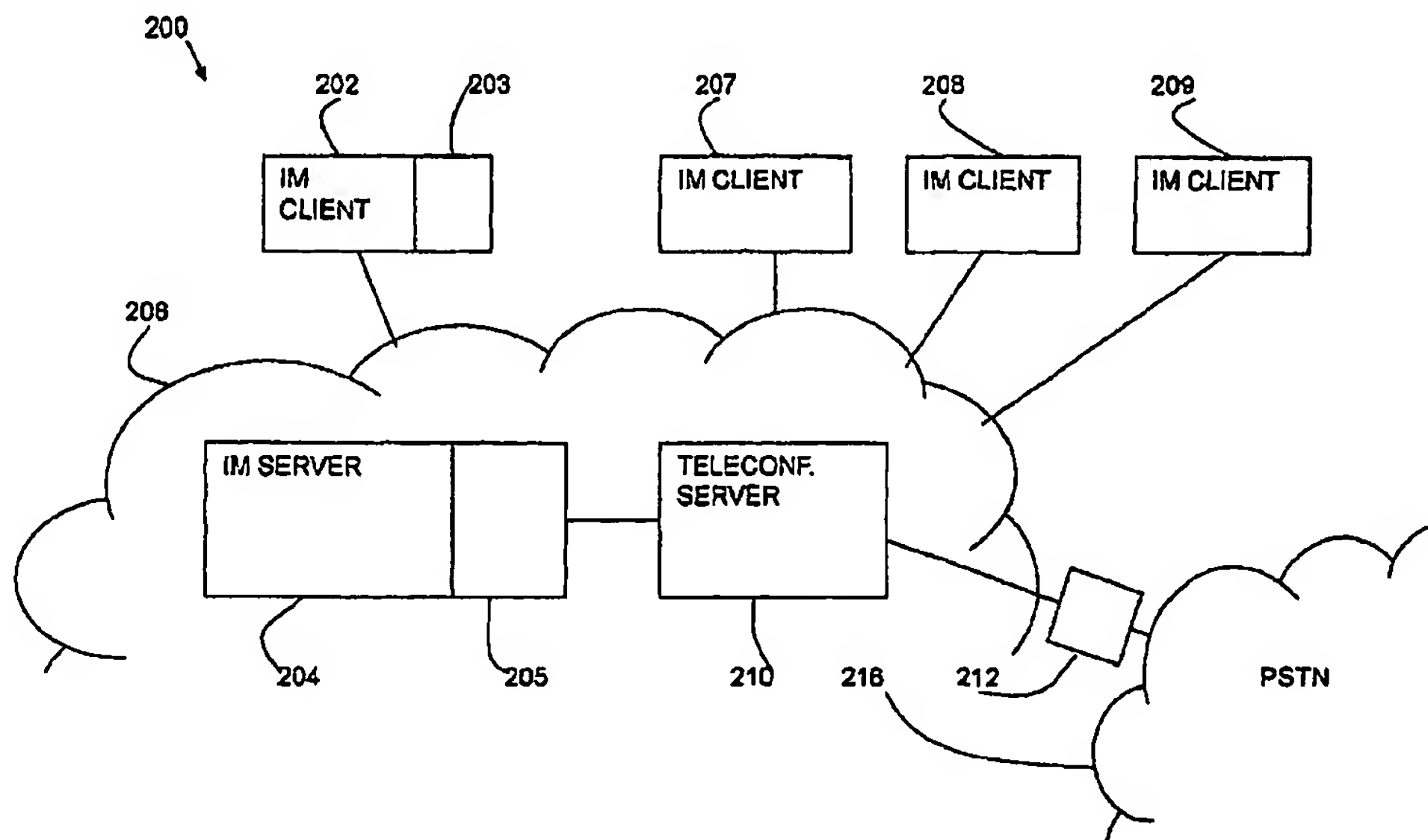
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **CURRAN, Darragh**
[IE/IE]; 1 Osprey Lawn, Templeogue, Dublin 6W (IE).
DESMOND, Michael [IE/IE]; Lindenville, Mungret,
Limerick (IE). **HARRIGAN, Martin** [IE/IE]; Derrygrath,
Clonmel, County Tipperary (IE). **JOHNSTON, Trevor**
[IE/IE]; Baltham, Collon Road, Drogheda, Co Louth
(IE). **KUZUCU, Cenk** [TR/IE]; Clarion Quay, Apt 2
Block 1, IFSC, Dublin 1 (IE). **WALLACE, Mark, Ernest**
[IE/IE]; 20 Monkstown Square, Monkstown Avenue,
Dublin (IE).

(74) Agent: **LITHERLAND, David, Peter;** IBM United
Kingdom Limited, Intellectual Property Law, Hursley
Park, Winchester Hampshire SO21 2JN (GB).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTEGRATION OF INSTANT MESSAGING AND PSTN BASED TELECONFER-**
ENCING



(57) Abstract: A system is provided comprising a plurality of instant messaging client applications (202, 207, 208, 209) communicating via a computer network (206) to send and receive messages in real time integrated with n-way teleconferencing capability via a telephone network (216). The system includes a plurality of instant messaging client applications (202, 207, 208, 209), an instant messaging server (204), and a teleconferencing server (210), all connected via a computer network (206). The teleconferencing server (210) enables n-way telephone connections via the telephone network (216). The n-way telephone connections are provided to telephone apparatus of at least some users of the instant messaging client applications who can visualise the teleconference via a graphical user interface (600) of the instant messaging client application.



PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.